Silvana Leggiero HB 5537 120 Briggs Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

Expanding the scope of practice will be beneficial in so many ways and be consistent with Naturopathic scope of practice law in other New England states as well. Healthcare access will be improved, primary care needs will be met, healthcare continuity will improve for patients, and cost and time savings to patients will be significant, which is especially of importance in these challenging healthcare times.

In addition, expanding the scope of practice will enhance education and training for medical students at the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine, to help to keep the high standards of this program.

Please strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. Thank you in advance for your support and consideration.

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Sincerely, Silvana Leggiero